DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 285 602 IR 052 096

AUTHOR Mulliner, K.; Lee, Hwa-Wei
TITLE Funding for the Southeast Asia Collection and Research Resources at Ohio University.
PUB DATE 21 Mar 86
NOTE 24p.; Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, (38th, Chicago, IL, March 21, 1986).
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141) -- Speeches/Conference Papers (150)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Academic Libraries; Access to Information; *Asian Studies; Corporate Support; Developing Nations; *Federal Aid; *Financial Support; Higher Education; International Cooperation; *Library Collection Development; *Resource Materials
IDENTIFIERS Malaysia; *Ohio University

ABSTRACT

Since the establishment of Ohio University's Southeast Asian Studies program in 1967, the university library has worked to develop its Southeast Asia Collection. Following a recent loss of federal funding, the library turned to alternative sources of funding for the collection, including interim emergency funding and project grants from the university and a special allocation through the endowment for the Tun Abdul Razak Chair for Southeast Asian Studies. With so few collections offering any depth on Southeast Asia, each of the collections is de facto a national resource center. Libraries with such collections should explore various sources of funding, including their university administration; private, corporate, and foundation donors; Southeast Asian sources; other international sources; and the federal government, especially Title VI of the Higher Education Act. Other areas of concern for all Southeast Asian Collections include the ability of researchers to have access to information; the potential loss of ephemeral materials as researchers retire; and the proliferation of formats in which materials must be collected. In response to these concerns, the Southeast Asia Research Institute (SRI) is being developed at Ohio University. The acquisitions budget and funds for Ohio University's Southeast Asia Collection are presented in two graphs; references are provided; and information about the Tun Abdul Razak Chair is appended. (KM)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED285602

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☒ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy

FUNDING FOR

THE SOUTHEAST ASIA COLLECTION AND RESEARCH RESOURCES

AT OHIO UNIVERSITY

BY

K. MULLINER
ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR

&

HWA-WEI LEE
DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES

OHIO UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
ATHENS, OHIO 45701-2978

PAPER PRESENTED AT
THE THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN STUDIES
MARCH 21, 1986
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

PANEL:

"FUNDING FOR RESEARCH RESOURCES WITH EMPHASIS ON

SOUTHEAST ASIA COLLECTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES"

IR053096

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
K. Mulliner

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

FUNDING FOR

THE SOUTHEAST ASIA COLLECTION AND RESEARCH RESOURCES

AT OHIO UNIVERSITY

As our topic requires a historical background, it is appropriate that we offer a historical prologue regarding the panel. Of the Southeast Asia Collections and study programs in the United States, that at Ohio University is the youngest, looking forward to its 20th anniversary next year. It is particularly appropriate that Professor Varner, our fellow contributor, and Dr. Provencher, the Chair, are from Northern Illinois University, also one of the younger Southeast Asia programs in the U.S. In tracing the genealogy of Southeast Asian Studies at Ohio University, the common ancestor is Cornell University but the immediate parentage is from Northern Illinois University.

When Ohio University's activist president, Vernon R. Alden, decided that, if Ohio University was going to be active in Southeast Asia (operating a model high school in Vietnam for U.S. AID), it was appropriate to learn and teach more about the area, a search for staff was begun in 1967. The leader selected to build the program was one of the founders of Northern Illinois University's Southeast Asia Program, Professor J. Norman Parmer (now a professor of History at Trinity University), who was hired as Assistant Dean of Arts and Sciences for International Studies. Professor Parmer asked one of his colleagues at N.I.U., Professor Paul W. van der Veur, to join him as the Director of Southeast Asian Studies. To add just one more, of many, connections, in that year Northern Illinois University was seeking a librarian for its Southeast Asia Collection to replace Donald Clay Johnson, who had accepted a position at Yale University. One of the candidates that was interviewed was an Indonesia-born cataloger at Cornell University, Ms. Lian The (now Lian The-Mulliner). Following her interview in DeKalb, she was interviewed in Chicago by Professors Parmer and van der Veur. The upshot was that she accepted the position at Ohio University and has overseen the development of one of the major research collections on Southeast Asia in the U.S.

Others, particularly in history, have given attention to the development of Southeast Asian Studies in the U.S.[1] (although with less attention to genealogy). Our purpose is not to add to that effort but to focus on a micro study of a specific institution. Before that, however, it is perhaps appropriate to observe one significant similarity between Ohio University and Northern Illinois University, that is the stature of Southeast Asian Studies within the institution. At both universities, Southeast Asian Studies has emerged as the major area studies program and the Southeast Asian library collection at each is the major research collection in the university library. To this I would add that the University Presidents have also demonstrated a

commitment to each university's involvement in the region. While we are loath to comment on other institutions, I believe that many of you can envy the primacy which Southeast Asia studies and research enjoy within the two institutions.

Southeast Asia Studies at Ohio University — Historical Highlights

To turn our gaze from descent to ascent, we return to Ohio University and the establishment of Southeast Asian Studies in the fall of 1967. Although now Distinguished Professor Emeritus John Cady had taught at Ohio University for several years and other faculty occasionally offered courses treating the region, there was nothing resembling a program of study and the library resources were hardly adequate to support even that relative neglect. While Professor van der Veur has since indicated that he regrets not having asked the University for greater assured funding for Southeast Asian materials, it is demonstrative of the development of Southeast Asian Studies at Ohio University that the Librarian was hired at the same time as the leadership of the program.

One other important trend which has shaped the direction of Southeast Asian Studies at Ohio University also dates from this early period. This has come to be known on campus as "the Malaysia Connection."[2] In 1968, six Malaysian students enrolled at Ohio University under a tripartite agreement among the Mara Institute of Technology (ITM), the Asia Foundation, and Ohio University. These were the first of thousands of Malaysians who have studied at Ohio University since, under a variety of sponsorships, and Ohio University offers its degrees in selected programs on the ITM campus. In recent years, students from ASEAN countries account for about 1/3 of the University's international student population (which comprises about 10% of the student body).

During this period, Ms. The was responsible for building an appropriate collection almost from scratch, but she also divided her time between work within the library and work in the Center for International Studies, establishing the close ties between the Southeast Asia Studies program and the library which continue to this day. She was also able to demonstrate the interrelationship between the library and research in the major works which she compiled jointly with the Director of Southeast Asia Studies.[3]

The next significant developments were in the 1970s. Emerging from its infancy, the Ohio University Library was able to join the Library of Congress administered National Program for Acquisitions and Cataloging (NPAC) in 1970, just as that program was expanding to cover materials from Malaysia and Singapore as well as Indonesia. Ohio University was partially able to capitalize on its relatively late membership as a result of Indiana University transferring uncataloged materials which it had re-

ceived during participation in the 1960s (giving us a backlog almost from the beginning). Ohio University also took over Indiana's slot on the priority list.

It is difficult to overemphasize how important the NPAC program has been to the growth of the Southeast Asia Collection at Ohio University but a review of our records also reveals how demanding it was in terms of budget. The history of the programs of the Jakarta Field Office is deserving of a separate treatment in the history of Southeast Asian Studies in the U.S. Suffice it to say that the doubling in cost of even partial participation in the program after only one year was traumatic for the then library administration. Unfortunately, that trauma has only slightly abated.

Offsetting the influx of materials (and bills) from NPAC was the success of the Southeast Asia Program in gaining federal support from a grant under the National Defense Education Act. The importance of that grant support, which continued for about 8 years, cannot be over-stated. Indeed, without that federal support, Southeast Asian Studies likely would have withered at Ohio University, especially as those years of support fell during a time that the University and the Library faced sharp enrollment drops accompanied by slashed budgets. The present stature of our Southeast Asia Collection owes much to that funding but even more so to the concern of the faculty associated with Southeast Asian Studies at Ohio University who were perceptive enough to recognize that of all of the things for which the grants might be used that library resources would yield the greatest benefits over the longest period. That this awareness was not unique to Ohio University was evident in a study of NDEA Centers for 1978-79 which found that Southeast Asia Centers expended 21.7% of their budgets on library acquisitions compared to an average of 11.1% for all Centers.[4]

While this funding was crucial, we would also emphasize an additional consideration, one which was occasionally the subject of criticism in grant competitions: the decision to focus efforts on those parts of Southeast Asia most consistent with the foci of the Southeast Asia Program and the University, rather than inadequately attempt to blanket the region. This is not to ignore particular countries in Southeast Asia or to claim that some are more important than others. Rather it was and is a recognition that comprehensive collecting on the ten countries of the region is prohibitively expensive for any institution. Further it recognizes that researchers nationally are better served by the availability of research collections concentrating on specific countries, particularly if some coordinated distribution of collection development could be implemented, than a number of collections ranging from moderate to mediocre.[5]

While there have been various attempts at distributed collection development among the fewer than ten collections in the U.S. that focus on Southeast Asia, these remain in the explora-

tory phase. This is in rather marked contrast to the success achieved with SEASSI (Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute) in cooperative summer language programs. In the meantime, each collection, depending on its budgetary resources, has been forced to emphasize some materials and areas and to neglect others. Lacking central coordination, Ohio University assayed the strengths of various collections in the U.S. and identified the countries of Brunei, Malaysia, and Singapore as unserved by a comprehensive research collection. Having identified this niche, the basis for a rational collection development policy was laid. Beyond seeking comprehensive coverage on these three countries, materials on Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand are collected (forming the core of an ASEAN focus) in decreasing priority and on the rest of Southeast Asia, with increasingly largely western language materials.

The budgetary rationale is obvious, but this concentration also facilitates the cultivation of relationships with librarians scholars, and others concerned with the area and greater familiarity with research needs and interests. It has also evolved into the compilation of a bibliography of new materials on and from Brunei, Singapore, and Malaysia which appears regularly in Berita, the newsletter of the national Malaysia/Singapore/Brunei Studies group.

The discussion of this collection development policy, which evolved over a number of years, marks an appropriate transition from history to the subject at hand, funding at Ohio University for the Southeast Asia Collection and research programs. Funding such as from federal grants is commonly referred to as "soft money," in contrast to regular operating allocations which are called "hard money." One of the lessons learned at Ohio University, during the budget and enrollment crises of the mid-1970s, alluded to above, was just how "soft" that hard money could be. In fact during one year the library, but not the Southeast Asia Collection which enjoyed grant support, was forced to forego the purchase of monographs. When revisions for the regulations covering NDEA centers resulted in the loss of federal funding, that source of support also disappeared. It is relevant to note that, just as the library identified a niche to serve national scholarship and research, the Southeast Asia Studies Program had similarly emphasized its unique capacities to provide well prepared students with masters degrees to other institutions, to provide strong background at the masters level for those seeking to work in Southeast Asia, and to stimulating awareness of Southeast Asia outside the centers (what is commonly termed outreach). While Southeast Asian foci were available in a few doctoral areas, there seemed no overwhelming demand for additional doctoral programs. Unfortunately for the university, the new federal regulations indicated that doctoral programs were to be the basis in identifying centers.

Having been spared much of the crisis of the mid-1970s that shook the rest of the university, failure to continue federal

funding shocked the Southeast Asia Studies program and the library. While care had been taken, as far as possible, to transfer positions from soft funding to regular university positions, it was recognized among the faculty that the greatest threat was to the library. If the Collection, which had emerged as a major resource under federal funding, were not to be severely crippled, alternative funding would be needed. This was especially true for continued meaningful participation in NPAC where reducing or halting acquisitions for a year can result in the loss of irreplaceable resources.

OHIO UNIVERSITY RESPONSES

It was at this point that the strong support of the President and senior administrators, alluded to in our opening, became crucial. Interim emergency funding was approved to cover the cost of NPAC participation and for retention of a Southeast Asia Cataloging position through a competitive internal program of project grants.

It was also at this time that the pioneering "Tun Abdul Razak Chair in Southeast Asian Studies" was created. Through matching funding from the Malaysian Government and American corporations doing business in Malaysia, earnings provide for the presence of a distinguished Malaysian professor on our campus each year. This year we have been very pleased that the Tun Razak Chair holder is Professor Zainal Abidin bin Abdul Wahid of the History Department of the National University of Malaysia. In addition to the usual provisions in an endowed Chair, this also provides a special allocation each year for library acquisitions.

CHALLENGES & RESPONSES

With this historical introduction, we now will expand our view while retaining a local focus consonant with our theme. Our rationale is that, with so few collections offering any depth on Southeast Asia, each of the collections is de facto a national resource center. Moreover, to continue to grow, each must consider the national community of users to justify such growth.

In describing funding, we will focus on funding for libraries as the basis for most research activity. This reflects our area of greatest experience but it also, we believe, targets the area of greatest neglect.[6] While funding for research from various sources (SSRC, ACLS, Fulbright, etc.), the major continuing external source of funding for library collections in the U.S. has been for National Centers under Title VI of the Higher Education Act. We will return to this point later.

Before discussing approaches to funding for library collections, two points should be emphasized. The first is that in discussing funding, we do not necessarily mean money, that is, gifts in kind can be an important means of building and maintaining collections. Depending on the nature of such gifts, they can contribute to the growth of the collection with little or minimal acquisitions cost to the collection and thus free money for other purposes.

The second point, partially the antithesis of the first, is that the cost of acquiring materials is of secondary importance to collection growth. It is a rule of thumb in libraries that acquisitions budgets account for 30 to 35% of a library budget. To be of use to researchers the materials must be made available, preferably easily accessible via national bibliographic utilities such as RLIN or OCLC. Even more striking in this regard, a single title acquired under NPAC may cost $4 or $5 but the processing costs will be many times that figure ($100 per title was the figure given for the Library of Congress a few years ago). In addressing funding, consideration must be given to processing and servicing the materials as well as simply acquiring them. Discussions among Southeast Asia collection curators and librarians at the eight universities with identified collections indicate that significant cataloging and processing backlogs, especially of vernacular materials, are the rule rather than the exception. The result, for the research community, is that the materials may be no more accessible than if they had not been acquired.[7]

1. Local Support. Although funding will be addressed from a number of perspectives, the local situation is the most critical. Without the support of the library and the university administration as well as the faculty, the other approaches to funding which we will discuss will be unlikely. At the same time, it is at the local university level that a collection is likely to be most directly challenged. To the extent that it depends on operating funds and even undesignated non-operating funds, it is in competition with most other academic areas and programs. Without regard to the size of a particular institution's budget, an area collection, in this case a Southeast Asia Collection, must be able to justify its slice of that particular pie. Moreover, with considerable institutional variation, there will be ongoing challenges to the size of that slice, no matter how great or small.

Translating this discussion to Ohio University, we have prepared a graph (Figure 1*), focusing on the current acquisitions budget, which indicates how that budget is spent and how it is financed (Figure 2). We have mentioned our collection development foci (Brunei, Singapore, and Malaysia) and as a result

*Transparencies are appended at the conclusion of the paper.

acquisitions through the Southeast Asia Cooperative Acquisitions Program in Jakarta (referred to simply as NPAC in this paper, although we recognize that there are many other NPAC programs). Within that program, the acquisitions money divides 2:1 for Brunei, Singapore, and Malaysia materials compared to Indonesian materials. Yet Indonesia is the next most important area of focus. That so many Indonesian materials are now microfiched in New Delhi, subscription to the Library of Congress Photoduplication offering of Southeast Asia microfiche is a significant adjunct to our NPAC participation. And the Southeast Asia Microform project (SEAM) is important in obtaining and preserving rare research materials but also in supporting doctoral research. As was evident in the historical discussion, the remainder of the money is spent for current western language materials on the area (many of these materials are also acquired from the disciplinary allocations but identifying a specific amount was not possible) and for some retrospective buying and research collections in microformat as well as newspapers (a not insignificant expense) and other materials from other countries in the region. Also, these graphs reflect expenditures and not the value of gifts in kind.

Dollar figures for the expenditures are omitted as these change substantially from year to year (generally upward, with the exception of SEAM) but the proportions are illustrative. Implicit in the graph is that the first three expenses (are basically fixed costs) while expansions and contractions in budgets mostly affect the "routine" portion, increasing or decreasing the ability to buy retrospective materials and vernacular materials from other areas.

As the second graph evidences (Figure 2), meeting the cost of the expenditures in the first graph requires a blending of funding sources. The routine allocation is the share of operating funding for acquisitions identified for the Southeast Asia Collection (about 1.1%). The special allocation is also from the operating budget (about 1% of the 1985/86 budget) to assure continuation in the NPAC and related programs. The funding from Razak Chair is based on endowment earnings. As it is subject to variation, it is shown at its minimum level. Depending on other needs of the Tun Razak Professor, it can increase 50% or more from that illustrated. These funds are used to intensify our efforts at comprehensive collecting on Malaysia and to support special research efforts of the Tun Razak Professor. The endowment earnings reflect our current fund raising campaign (discussed below). The proportion reflects the current year allocation but actually would be over twice the level shown when the endowment has been invested for the full earning period. The small "other" reflects private gifts to support the collection.

As noted other operating funds are used to acquire Southeast Asian materials from disciplinary allocations[8], library-wide endowment funding for special collections, and one-time money for research collections.

Without dwelling on these graphs, which are simply selective snapshots of a single year, it should be clear that local funding can require considerable imagination. It is also obvious that what we are calling local funding is not entirely local funding. This affords a transition to other funding areas.

2. Private, Corporate, and Foundation Support. Having experienced how "soft" both grant and operating funding can be, the Library and the University are currently engaged in a campaign to raise a substantial endowment for the Southeast Asia Collection, the earnings from which will provide for the acquisition and processing of materials. It would be premature to report in detail on this effort at this time. As was evident in the last graph on local funding, earnings from this campaign have begun to be available to support the acquisitions effort, but the goal of the campaign is to generate sufficient earnings to contribute to the cost of processing and bringing researchers and research materials together as well.

The last graph also reflected the role of the endowment for the Tun Abdul Razak Chair for Southeast Asian Studies in supporting the Collection. While the Malaysian Government played a key role in developing and supporting the Chair, American corporations doing business in Malaysia provided 2/3s the funding. We continue to be appreciative of their contributions which continue to support the activities of the Chair and the Collection in perpetuity. [Acknowledgement of donors appended]

In concluding the brief discussion of this source of funding, we would be remiss if we did not caution that considerable time and travel by senior University administrators were required to achieve the goal. While the donors indicated varying degrees of support, both in their efforts and the amounts given, a significant factor in the success of the campaign was the demonstrated commitment by the University at the highest levels, not to neglect the manifest support of the Malaysian Government, which convinced donors of the importance of the Tun Razak Chair.

It is also important to note that the beneficiaries of these donations have been scholars and researchers throughout the nation, the thousands of Malaysian students studying in North America, and the members of the Ohio University community who have had the opportunity to consult with the distinguished Malaysian professors who have been named to the Chair to date or have used the materials acquired by the Southeast Asia Collection (at Ohio University) through interlibrary loan, or, as not infrequently occurs, through urgent telephone requests to the Collection for information.

3. Southeast Asia. The Malaysian Government was particularly farsighted in its support for the Tun Razak Chair. But this is

not the only example of how governments, organizations, and individuals can support Southeast Asia Collections. In recent years the Malaysian Government has also recognized that it is important to provide the thousands of students which it sends to the North America with authoritative information on what is happening in Malaysia. As American newspapers (even the best) are most likely to provide regular reports on Southeast Asia only when there is a particular crisis--and that in a manner aimed at the American reader, Malaysia has provided for regular air mail subscriptions to Malaysian newspapers for universities with sufficient Malaysian students enrolled. This, of course, provides the students with a basis to interpret the crisis news which they receive in American newspapers and to help the students remain in touch. From a library perspective, in which air-mailed newspapers can be a substantial expense, even through NPAC, the newspapers are a valuable addition. The Indonesian Government, through the Embassy, has also provided special gifts to Southeast Asia Collections of special series on Indonesian and local language literature.

These are but examples of the potential for mutually beneficial cooperation between Southeast Asian individuals, groups and governments. An even more important effort may be the creation last May of the Malaysian Resource Center at Ohio University, which was dedicated by Minister of Education Abdullah Ahmad Badawi. The Resource Center represents a further stage of cooperation between the Collection and Malaysian agencies and organizations. The goal, approved at several levels but difficult to implement (librarians will appreciate that government officials and diplomats do not always understand the needs of a library, especially for continuity), is to have Ohio University as a depository in the U.S. for government publications. News of the Center has also attracted deposits from a number of non-governmental organizations. Of particular note was the deposit of a number of historic films from the Malaysian Embassy which otherwise would have been discarded. These have since been transferred to videotape. In moving to assure accessibility of Southeast Asian resources in the U.S., we think this is a fertile field for exploration.

Having identified some of the possibilities, we would be remiss if we did not also mention an important hazard. Despite some concerns expressed at the time of its establishment by informed scholars, the Tun Razak Chair has provided benefits to Malaysia and to Ohio University without compromising the integrity of either. Similarly, the Malaysian Resource Center receives valuable support in kind from the Malaysian Government but it is not a governmental information agency but a research and media resource of and about the people and nation of Malaysia. While we have not been troubled by financing or associations which would compromise Ohio University, the library or the Southeast Asia Collection, it is always a concern.

4. International. We use this term to refer to non-Southeast Asia funding and to international agencies. We have little to say about it beyond noting that Southeast Asia nations are not the only nations that rely on the U.S. to educate their scholars and researchers. It remains to be seen whether the governments, organizations, and corporations in these other nations will realize that investing in the research resources that these students and researchers use in the U.S. is an investment in their future. At the international level, UNESCO was instrumental in helping Ohio University to develop and refine a pioneering internship program[9] for library science faculty from Southeast Asia which continues to serve professional librarians from the region and other parts of Asia as well as to provide contacts and expertise in processing and handling Southeast Asia materials. Such funding is no longer available but it remains an area that cannot be ignored.

5. Federal. At a time when Gramm-Rudmann-Hollings has precipitated virtual panic, we are contrarians in discussing the present and potential federal support of Southeast Asian resources and research. In the first place, we unlikely would be here today were it not for past federal support as an NDEA/FLAS center, as apparent in the history section of this paper. Also, we are presently in the midst of a cataloging project supported under Title II-C of the Higher Education Act which will both greatly alleviate our backlog and will provide the basis for national online access to the wealth of information in the Southeast Asia microfiche produced in New Delhi. Our project focuses on the pre-AACR2 fiche[10] and was intended to provide access to the fiche that Delhi could not. Whether scholars will receive access to the remainder (those produced since 1982) is reportedly threatened by present and pending forced budget reductions.

Without entering into partisan issues, one of the international areas reportedly least threatened is the Caribbean Initiative, yet when this thrust was announced it was likened to creating Singapores in Central America. That, of course, was before the present economic slump in Singapore. The allusion was evidence of a lack of understanding of Southeast Asia in general and Singapore in particular. Without belaboring it, the previous identification of international programs as "National Defense Education" was not entirely inappropriate. We share the contention of many of the papers presented to the President's Commission on Foreign Language and Area Studies that this country needs people and research familiar with different world areas and those people and that research depends upon access to comprehensive and timely information from and about the areas.

As Dr. Senese has discussed the role of Title II-C, we would only emphasize the importance of the two grants which we have received under that Title to increase the availability of our Collection nationally.

We focus instead on Title VI, which is specifically intended to strengthen international and area awareness. In the history section, we indicated that support for libraries under Title VI was significant as a proportion of the grants which represented a permanent investment in the research resources of the nation (21.7% of the grants to Southeast Asia Centers in 1978/79) and for our Collection in particular. Unfortunately, this has not necessarily been the case. Of the eight universities supporting Southeast Asia Collections, three have been designated as National Centers. As a generalization, a Department of Education paper has documented that for all Title VI Centers, library expenditures as a proportion of the federal grants fell from 21.2% in 1973/74 to 15.9% in 1981/82. Combining Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands, it noted that an average of only 4.5% of the Title VI funds went for library expenditures (least of any of the world areas) but these accounted for an average of 15.2% of library expenditures for the area collection (highest of any world area).[11] A more recent compilation, by Dr. Ann Schneider of the Department of Education, reports that Title VI Southeast Asia Centers spent an average of 16.9% of the grants for library acquisitions (back to highest among the regions) and 10.4% for library staff.[12]

Our purpose is not to criticize centers but to emphasize the lesson learned at Ohio University, when a Federal grant disappears, the one major legacy is the library collection. Moreover, such collections, built with Federal funds, should be truly National Centers, serving researchers spread throughout the nation. To address this Bill Frederick, a member of the Ohio University faculty, two years ago suggested a rethinking of the "Center Concept" as it applies to Southeast Asia. He emphasized that with only eight centers and programs concentrating on Southeast Asia that "all centers should be treated as national repositories and receive basic support for, in particular, library and other materials.[13] At the same conference, Shiro Saito called for "the formation of a consortium of Southeast Asia collections" to engage in "a nationally coordinated collection plan to acquire systematically Southeast Asian research materials."[14] While we find the suggested levels of funding ($3,000-$5,000) and matching ($800-$1,500) impossibly low, the concept has merit and would be a natural continuation of current discussions within the Collection Development Sub-Committee of the Committee on Research Materials on Southeast Asia (CORMOSEA).

Finally, considering Federal programs, the role of the Library of Congress and its Jakarta Field Office cannot be neglected. Cutbacks in the funding for the Jakarta office, just as a new director has come on board, would be a severe blow to NPAC participants for Southeast Asia. The program is significant for both acquisitions and cataloging. If anything greater attention should be given to opportunities afforded by microcomputers to increase productivity and for Jakarta to provide machine readable records to LC which can be added to national online databases such as RLIN and OCLC.

6. **Access.** Previous mention has been made of the importance of access to materials. In citing access as a challenge, we are concerned that researchers can identify materials, can afford to borrow or otherwise use them, and have as full access as possible internationally as well as nationally. In identifying materials, the problem is both the backlogs in cataloging and processing and the problems for institutions in RLIN or OCLC to share records with those in the other utility. For users outside the eight academic Southeast Asia Centers, the problem is even greater. We would hope that the Linked Systems Project might eventually bridge this chasm on a national (and possibly international basis) but at present print sources seem the only solution.[15] Beyond identifying materials, users need to be able to obtain them. This is particularly critical for graduate students, the next generation of researchers, who are severely pressed to meet the interlibrary lending charges imposed by institutions housing some of the Southeast Asia Collections. There is no easy solution in sight, particularly as the collections at some of the larger institutions, apparently are following an institutional policy in which they have a small voice. In our own institution, we strive to maintain the principle of free access to information by not charging other than for photocopy charges or in reciprocity to those institutions that impose a charge on our institution.

The question of international cooperation remains wide open. Various approaches have been made from the U.S., Australia, and Southeast Asia, but little concrete has been accomplished to date. New initiatives are obviously needed.

7. **New and Special Collecting Problems.** Time and technology are also bringing new challenges to Southeast Asia Collections. In the history of Southeast Asian studies in this country, we are at a point where many of the pioneering researchers have retired or are nearing retirement. This seems an area deserving special attention if potentially valuable ephemeral materials and field notes are not to be lost to future scholars. Obviously those associated with a particular collection or institution may wish to leave their work with that institution but there are many more across the U.S. whose lifework deserves preparation. We have made small steps in this direction, but it deserves national consideration in conjunction with distributed collection development.

Technology is also providing a proliferation of formats in which materials need to be collected: beyond the traditional audio-visual media are data tapes, recordings of events (cultural and historical), microcomputer software, and a range of video products to name a few. We have begun piecemeal to acquire these but they present an entire range of problems in terms of systems (e.g., VHS or Beta, PAL or other video systems) to actually use them. This takes collections into new areas and is virtually impossible to undertake on a single institution basis. The Malaysian Resource Center represents one approach at Ohio Univer-

sity. Also reflecting the new roles, in 1984 an alumnus presented the Library with a sizeable collection of Southeast Asian artifacts, reflecting the art and artisanship of Southeast Asian peoples.[16] These, together with previous gifts of realia of daily life, are being prepared for exhibit as an adjunct of our Southeast Asian Collection.

8. New Responses. Two years ago, Bill Frederick called for the establishment of a national institute of advanced studies for Southeast Asia.[] In the absence of any response, he has now stimulated the formation of one such institute at Ohio University. Sri (or SRI--Southeast Asia Reserach Institute) is still in its developmental phases. Part of its purpose is to respond to some of the new challenges discussed above which fall outside some of the traditional roles and missions of Southeast Asia Collections. It is too early to provide a detailed description. Our purpose in noting it here is that attempts are being made to respond in new ways to the challenges identified above.

CONCLUSION

In focusing on Ohio University and especially the library, we have responded to the topic which we were asked to address. We are proud of some of the things that we have accomplished, disappointed in what has not, and cowed by what remains. In focusing on Ohio University, our intention is not to claim particular contributions but to begin what we hope will be an ongoing communications process among the few institutions in the country concerned with Southeast Asia and the many more researchers concerned with the field.

NOTES

1 The 1981 Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association in Los Angeles had a program on "Southeast Asia History R.I.P.?" with papers presented by William Frederick (Ohio University) and Craig Lockard (University of Wisconsin--Green Bay) and comments by Bruce Cruikshank and Bob van Niel. A decade earlier, the late Jay Maryanov provided a broad assessment: Gerald S. Maryanov, The Condition of Southeast Asian Studies in the United States: 1972 (Occasional Papers No. 3; DeKalb: Center for Southeast Asian Studies, 1974).

2 Felix Gagliano, "The Malaysian Connection: Ohio University's Link to the World's Other Side is a Decade Old," The Ohio University Alumnus Magazine, March 1977, pp. 8-13.

3 Lian The and Paul W. van der Veur, Treasures and Trivia: Doctoral Dissertations Accepted by Universities in the United States (Papers in International Studies, Southeast Asia Series No. 1; Athens: Ohio University Center for International Studies, 1968) and Lian The with Paul W. van der Veur, The Verhandelingen van het Bataviaasch Genootschap: An Annotated Content Analysis (Papers in International Studies, Southeast Asia Series No. 26; Athens: Ohio University Center for International Studies, 1973).

4 Ann I. Schneider, "NDEA Centers: How They Use Their Federal Money," in President's Commission on Foreign Language and International Studies: Background Papers and Studies (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1979), p. 174.

5 The importance of distributed collection development is cited from a number of sources in William E. Carter, "International Studies and Research Library Needs," President's Commission on Foreign Language and Area Studies: Background Papers and Studies (Washington, D.C.: Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1979), pp. 177-178. While the citations are concentrated on East Asian collections, they are equally applicable to Southeast Asia.

6 An indication of the neglect is evident in the study by Robert A. McCaughey, International Studies and Academic Enterprise: A Chapter in the Enclosure of American Learning (New York: Columbia University Press, 1984) which concentrates on international expertise and the production of graduates with Ph.D.s but ignores the resources on which research, Ph.D. or otherwise depend. There is no entry for libraries in the detailed index to the volume. This may partially explain why the Head of Ohio University's Southeast Asia Collection entitled her bibliography of dissertations on Southeast Asia Treasures and Trivia (see fn. 3 above), to the chagrin of some reviewers.

7 The most recent assessment of area studies collections is

the chapter, "Library and Information Resources" in Richard D. Lambert et al. Beyond Growth: The Next Stage in Language and Area Studies (Washington, D.C.: Association of American Universities, 1984), pp. 232-259. Pages 244-247 specifically address staffing and cataloging backlogs.

8

Ohio University's approach to allocating acquisitions funds in general is described in K. Mulliner, "The Acquisitions Allocation Formula at Ohio University," manuscript presently under review for Library Acquisitions: Practice and Theory, Vol. X, 3.

9

Described in Hwa-Wei Lee and K. Mulliner, "International Exchange of Librarians and the Ohio University Internship Program," College & Research Libraries News, Vol. X (November 1982), pp. 345-348; and Hwa-Wei Lee, "International Library Internships: An Effective Approach to Co-operation," International Library Review, Vol. XVII (1985), pp. 17-25, which is also available as "Library Internships: A New Approach to Cooperation," in Areas of Cooperation in Library Development in Asian and Pacific Regions, (Athens, Ohio: Chinese-American Librarians Association, 1985), pp. 21-27.

10

About one-half of the activity in Ohio University's present HEA Title II-C Grant is aimed at providing full AACR2 cataloging in machine readable form for Southeast Asia microfiche produced in New Delhi prior to the implementation of AACR2 by the Library of Congress. This is being done as a Major Microform Project through OCLC, which permits other institutions with the fiche to add holdings at a fraction of the cost of separate cataloging. It also provides a tape which can be loaded into RLIN for institutions using that utility. "AACR2" stand for the Second Edition of the Anglo American Cataloging Rules, which made substantial changes in the way information is entered in machine-readable format. With machine-readable records, consistency in entries is essential to assure fullest retrieval of information sought.

11

Ann I. Schneider, "Libraries of Title VI Centers: Some Impressions and Questions," unpublished paper provided by U.S. Department of Education, April 13, 1982.

12

Ann I. Schneider, "Center Budgets -- Analysis of 1983-84 Data," Memo to Directors of Title VI Centers and Fellowships Programs, U. S. Department of Education, Center for International Education, June 24, 1985.

13

William H. Frederick, "Adapting the Area Study Center Concept to New Needs," in Ronald A. Morse, ed., Southeast Asian Studies: Options for the Future (^[Papers presented at a conference held at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, March 26, 1984; Lanham, Md.: University Press of America, 1984), p. 92. Emphasis in original.

14

Shiro Saito, "Progress and Needs for Research Tools and

Resources in Southeast Asia Studies," in ibid., p. 154. Emphasis in original.

15 Examples of printed materials which assist in identifying and obtaining materials include the Library of Congress, Accessions List, Southeast Asia (Jakarta: Library of Congress Office) and The John M. Echols Collection on Southeast Asia Accessions List (Ithaca: Southeast Program, Cornell University). Similar infromation but with articles and analytic entries can be found in some country newsletters. We are most conversent with the "Malaysia/Singapore/Brunei Bibliography," begun by the Collection at Yale University but produced in recent years by the Ohio University Southeast Asia Collection, in Berita: Newsletter of the Malaysia/Singapore/Brunei Studies Group (Philadelphia: John Lent for the M/S/B Studies Group).

16 The catalog for that collection is: Lian The-Mulliner, Southeast Asia Through Ethnic Art: The Russell R. Ross Collection at Ohio University (Athens: Ohio University Library 1984).

FIGURE 1

OHIO UNIV. SEAsia COLL.

'85-86 ACQUISITIONS BUDGET

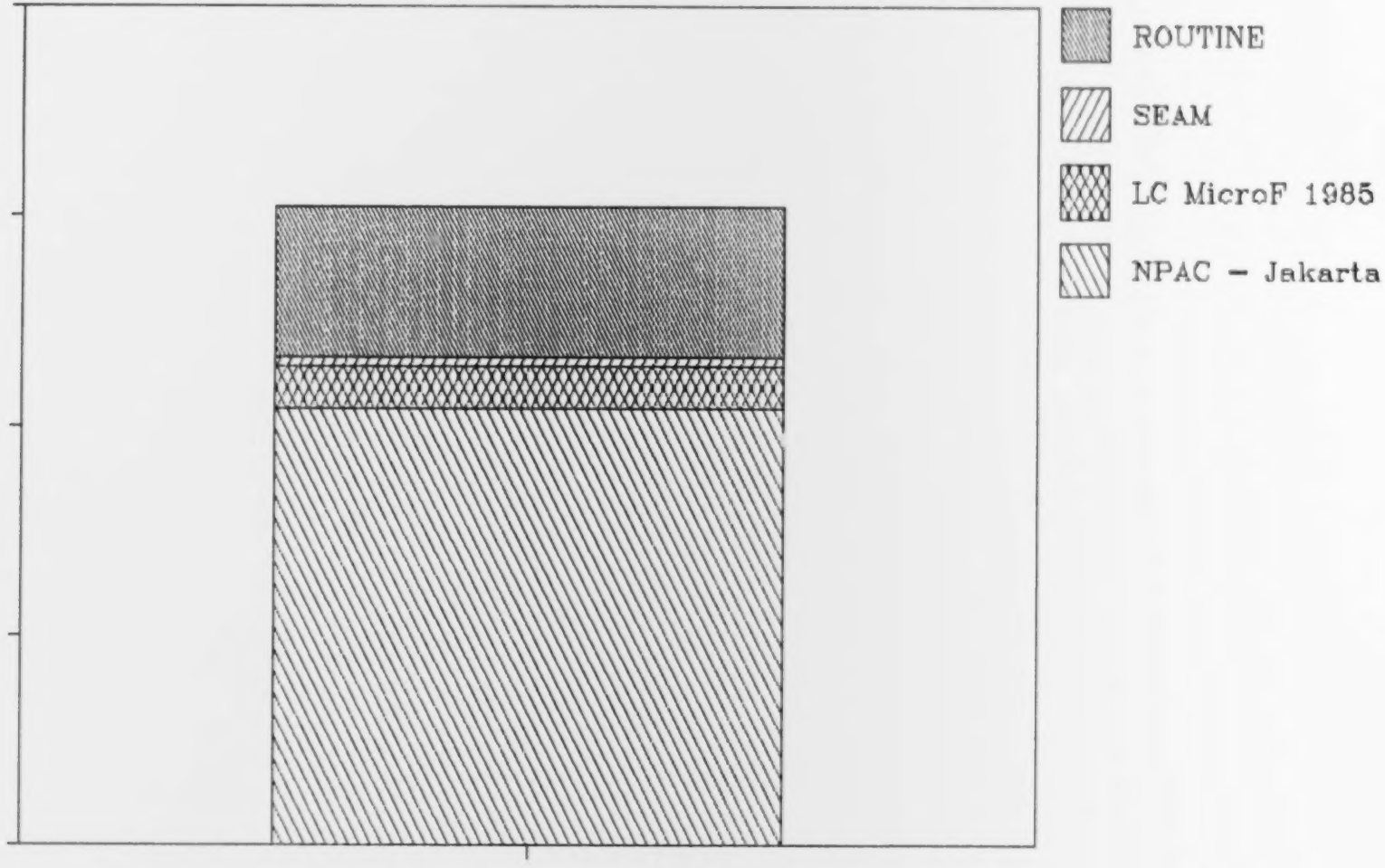
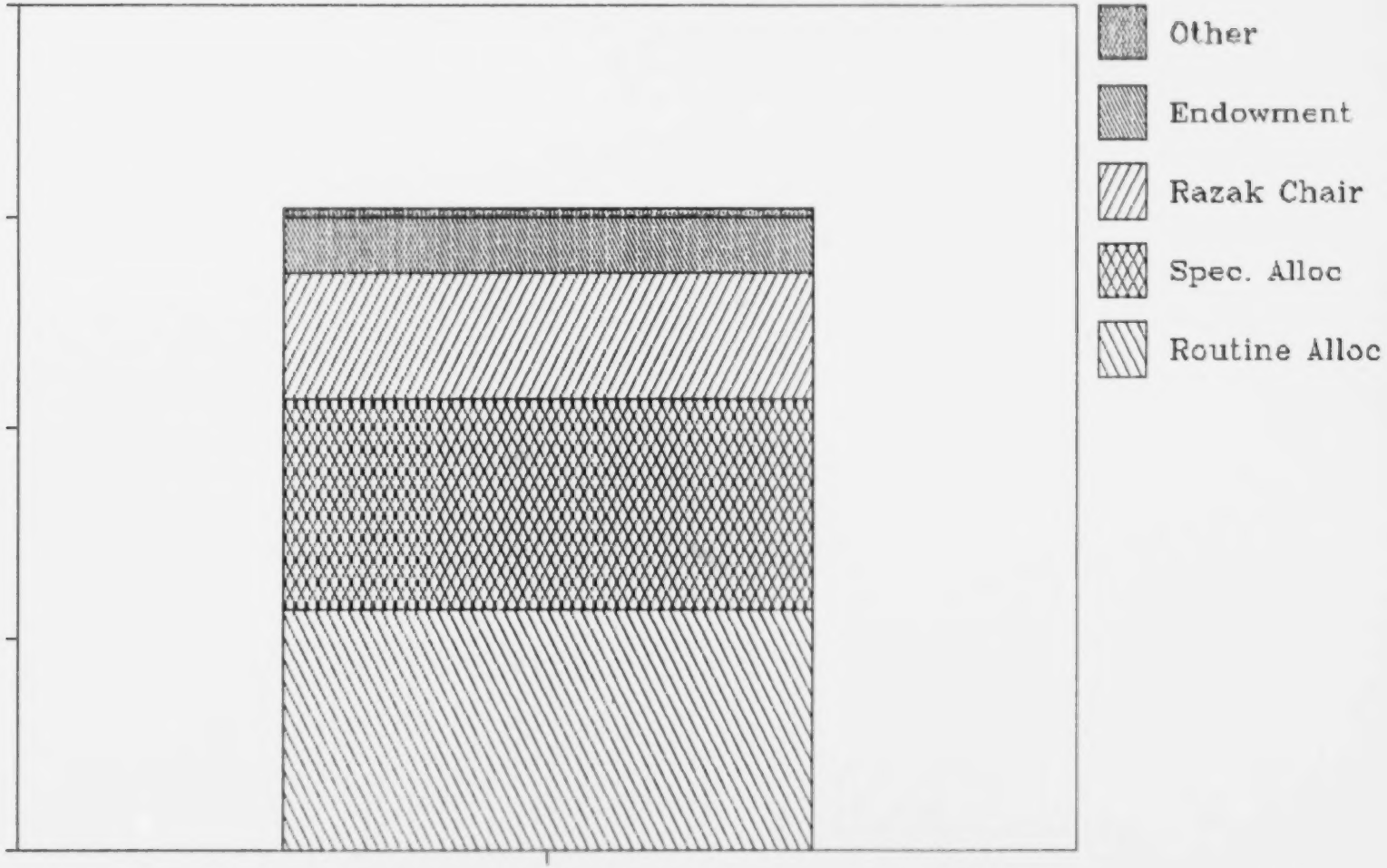


FIGURE 2

OHIO UNIV. SEAsia COLL.

'85-86 ACQUISITIONS FUNDS



APPENDIX

Ohio University Thanks the Donors to the Tun Abdul Razak Chair

Corporate Contributors

Leadership Gifts

Goodyear Malaysia Berhad
Esso Companies in Malaysia
American International Group
IBM World Trade Corporation
NCR Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.
RCA Sendirian Berhad
R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. Sdn. Bhd.
3M Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.
Johnson & Johnson Sdn. Bhd.

Major Gifts

General Instrument Sdn. Bhd.
Colgate-Palmolive (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.
Warner-Lambert (Mfg) Sdn. Bhd.
Caltex Oil Malaysia Ltd.
The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A.
Citibank, N.A.
Ford Motor Company of Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

Special Gifts

Monsanto Fund
CPC (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.
Gillette Companies in Malaysia
Mobil Oil Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.
Uniroyal Malaysian Plantations Sdn. Bhd.
Union Carbide Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.
Ogilvy & Mather (M) Sdn. Bhd.
Burson-Marsteller (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.
Bristol-Myers (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.

About the Tun Abdul Razak Chair

In March of 1980, the Malaysian Ministry of Education announced in Kuala Lumpur and Washington D.C. the establishment of the Tun Abdul Razak Chair in Southeast Asian studies at Ohio University. Jointly endowed by a US$350,000 grant from the Government of Malaysia and by matching funds generously contributed by public-spirited American firms with operations in Malaysia, this Chair represents an extraordinary nation-to-nation commitment in higher education.

Under the agreement with Ohio University, Malaysia annually nominates prominent visiting scholars from a wide variety of academic fields to go to Ohio University to teach, to conduct research, and to travel to academic and other meetings around the nation. As intellectual envoys to the United States from Southeast Asia, these scholars will leave a lasting legacy in America: a new appreciation of our similarities, a new respect for our differences.

The first holder of the Tun Razak Chair, the world-renowned Islamic scholar, Professor Syed Mohd. Naquib al-Attas, served with distinction during the academic year of 1981-1982. He measurably advanced the purposes of the Chair's founders which are to expand American knowledge of the cultural, economic, social, and political life and history of Malaysia and Southeast Asia.

Professor al-Attas made substantial progress on a book of commentary on the great Islamic thinker, Al-Raniri, which will give new insight into the history of Southeast Asia and the impact of Islam in the Malay world. He taught courses, lectured in other parts of the nation, advised Ohio University librarians in their quest to strengthen further an already first-rate Southeast Asian collection, and served as an advisor/consultant to Malaysian and American students and scholars. The second distinguished Tun Razak Professor, soon to be announced, will build upon the foundation of excellence laid by Professor Naquib al-Attas.

The concept of the Razak Chair grew out of the vision and cooperation of many individuals and organizations. Without the inspiration and support of Tun Dr. Hussein Onn, Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir, Datuk Musa Hitam and other Malaysian leaders, the project could not have been realized. The generous support of the civic-minded American companies being honored here tonight is an essential link in this unique partnership in international education. The leaders of these U.S. firms, here and at home, see this liaison as a natural corollary to their economic partnership with the people and government of Malaysia.

By every measure, the Tun Abdul Razak Chair is a remarkable success. Ohio University is proud to be part of this innovative program in Malaysian-American relations and understanding.